Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A flexible joint assembly for conducting a fluid, comprising:

a joint assembly inlet;

a joint assembly outlet; and

a fluid flow path between the inlet and the outlet, the fluid flow path including:

a first pivot joint;

a second pivot joint, wherein each of the first pivot joint and second pivot joint independently comprises a ball and socket joint, wherein each ball and socket joint comprises:

a socket;

a ball received in the socket;

a seal between the ball and the socket, and each ball and socket joint further comprises a compressing member axially compressing the seal between the ball and the socket and a retaining ring compressing the seal between the ball and the socket; and

a central fluid conductor fluidly coupling the pivot joints wherein the central fluid conductor couples to a first ball of the first pivot joint and a second ball of the second pivot joint, and each retaining ring compresses the seal by threadably connecting to a surface of the socket adjacent to the central fluid ~~connector~~ conductor and the ball,

wherein the pivot joints together provide greater than a 60° bend between the inlet and the outlet and each pivot joint independently provides greater than a 35° bend in the fluid flow path.

2-6. (canceled).

7. (original) The flexible joint assembly of claim 1 wherein the first pivot joint and the second pivot joint together provide a substantially 90° bend between the inlet and the outlet.

8. (original) The flexible joint assembly of claim 1 wherein the central fluid conductor is unitary.

9. (original) The flexible joint assembly of claim 1 wherein the central fluid conductor is shorter than 10 centimeters.

10. (original) The flexible joint assembly of claim 1 wherein the joint assembly inlet and the joint assembly outlet include a fitting.

11. (canceled)

12. (original) The flexible joint assembly of claim 1 wherein each pivot joint independently provides greater than a 40° bend in the fluid flow path.

13-40. (cancelled).

41. (previously presented) A flexible joint assembly comprising:

a joint assembly inlet;

a joint assembly outlet; and

a fluid flow path between the inlet and the outlet, the flow path including:

a first pivot joint;

a second pivot joint; and

a unitary central fluid conductor fluidly coupling the pivot joints, each of the first pivot joint and second pivot joint including:

an inner member;

a receiving member dimensioned to pivotally receive at least part of the inner member;

a sealing member sealing between the inner member and the receiving member;

a supporting member supporting the sealing member substantially uniformly over the entire length of the seal between the inner member and the receiving member, and

a retaining ring compressing the supporting member and the sealing member by threadably connecting to a surface of the receiving member adjacent to the central fluid connector and the inner member.

42. (previously presented) The flexible joint assembly of claim 1, wherein the central fluid conductor includes a tubular central portion that defines a longitudinal channel between a

first conductor end terminated by the first ball and a second conductor end terminated by the second ball.

43. (previously presented) The flexible joint assembly of claim 41, wherein the central fluid conductor includes a tubular central portion that defines a longitudinal channel between a first conductor end terminated by the first inner member and a second conductor end terminated by the second inner member.